

Remarks

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of numerous teleconferences over the past month.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-12, 15, 16, 18-21, 23-26, 28-31, 33-42, 44-48, 50-54, 60 and 62 are pending in the application, with 1 being the independent claim. Claims 13, 14, 17, 22, 27, 32, 43, 49-59 and 61 are sought to be canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. The cancellation of these claims was necessitated by the Examiner's verbal Restriction/Election Requirement. As discussed in a teleconference between Applicants' representative and the Examiner on May 17, 2005, the Examiner requested that Applicants elect one of the following groups for prosecution:

Group I, claims 1-36, 60, 61 and 62;

Group II, claims 37-49; and

Group III, claims 50-59.

Applicants elected Group I with traverse. As discussed during the June 8, 2005 teleconference, the Examiner has agreed to rejoin Group II.

In follow-up teleconferences with the Examiner on June 16, 2005 and June 22, 2005, the Examiner further restricted the invention to at least two additional groups, wherein in one group R_3 and R_4 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a ring having 4 or 5 carbon atoms, which optionally contain 1 or 2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and NR_5 , where R_5 is hydrogen or alkyl, or said ring is optionally substituted with an alkyl or aryl moiety or piperidin-4-

ylalklyl, optionally substituted by alkyl, aryl or aralkyl. Applicants elected this group, with traverse.

Accordingly, solely to expedite prosecution, Applicants cancel claims 13, 14, 17, 22, 27, 32, 43, 49-59 and 61 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

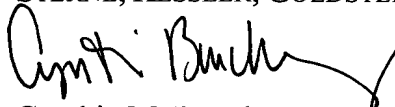
Claims 1, 7, 33, and 46 are sought to be amended to comply with the additional restriction requirement. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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